

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /138 W

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R 211525Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2858

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS & AEAGC-OCO

:CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS

USELMLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 109

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, GE

SUBJECT: REICHSBAHN ATTEMPTS TO GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE
MILITARY TRAINS

1. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN EARLY JANUARY, EAST GERMAN
CONDUCTOR OF BRITISH DUTY TRAIN SAID HE WAS UNDER
INSTRUCTION TO REQUEST PASSENGER MANIFEST, AND ON
JANUARY 10 CONDUCTOR OF FRENCH TRAIN ASKED HE BE
INFORMED OF NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ON BOARD. THESE
REQUESTS WERE REFUSED. NO SIMILAR REQUESTS HAVE BEEN
MADE BY CONDUCTORS OF US TRAINS, BUT ON JANUARY 17,
REICHSBAHN STATION MASTER APPROACHED EMPLOYEE OF OUR
RTO AND REQUESTED ESTIMATES OF NUMBER OF PASSENGERS
ON FRANKFURT TRAIN BE PROVIDED BY 1700 DAILY TO
DETERMINE WEIGHTS WHICH GOVERN MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE SIZE
OF TRAIN. HE IMPLIED THIS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO MEET
OUR REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL CARS AT LAST MINUTE. WE
DO NOT PLAN TO RESPOND AND IF STATION MASTER RAISES
MATTER AGAIN, HE WILL BE TOLD QUESTION OF NUMBER OF
PASSENGERS IS MATTER BETWEEN US AND SOVIETS OUTSIDE
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REICHSBAHN COMPETENCE.

2. SO FAR AS WE AWARE, REQUESTS BY CONDUCTORS UNPRECEDENTED IN RECENT YEARS AND STATION MASTER'S REQUEST OBVIOUS SUBTERFUGE, INASMUCH AS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EMPTY AND FULL TRAIN ONLY SMALL FRACTION OF TOTAL WEIGHT.

3. WE INTEND CONTINUE TO DENY ANY FURTHER GDR REQUESTS FOR PASSENGER INFORMATION, BUT DO NOT RECOMMEND PROTEST TO SOVIETS LEST WE MAKE AN ISSUE OUT OF A PROBE THAT MAY OTHERWISE BE DROPPED.

4. USCOB CONCURS.BORG

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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